

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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Applicant's or agent's file reference ROG001	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/NZ2004/000243	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 6 October 2004	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 6 October 2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G06F 17/30 (2006.01)		
Applicant EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS LIMITED et al		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
 - a. ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 9 sheets, as follows:
 - ☒ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
 - ☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
 - b. ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or table related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 1 June 2005	Date of completion of this report 06 January 2006
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaustalia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer Matthew Hollingworth Telephone No. (02) 6283 2024

Box No. I Basis of the report**1. With regard to the language, this report is based on:**

- ☒ The international application in the language in which it was filed
- ☐ A translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1 (b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4(a))
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):

- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1, 3-18 as originally filed/furnished
 - pages* 25 received by this Authority on 12 October 2005 with the letter of the same date
 - pages* 2 received by this Authority on 20 December 2005 with the letter of the same date
- ☒ the claims:
- pages as originally filed/furnished
 - pages* as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 - pages* 19-24 received by this Authority on 20 December 2005 with the letter of the same date
 - pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of
- ☒ the drawings:
- pages 2 as originally filed/furnished
 - pages* 1 received by this Authority on 28 June 2005 with the letter of the same date
 - pages* received by this Authority on with the letter of

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (specify):
- ☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (specify):

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
- ☐ the sequence listing (specify):
- ☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (specify):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/NZ2004/000243

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 2-11, 13-23, 25-28	YES
	Claims 1, 12, 24, 29-34	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	YES
	Claims 1-34	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-34	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

- D1: WO 2001/053941 A2 (THE DELFIN PROJECT, INC.), 26 July 2001
- D8: WO 1998/025198 A2 (STREAMIX CORPORATION), 11 June 1998
- D11: *RDF Site Summary (RSS) 1.0 specification*
<http://web.archive.org/web/20021014094554/web.resource.org/rss/1.0/spec>
- D12: *RSS 2.0 specification*
<http://web.archive.org/web/20030801072832/blogs.law.harvard.edu/tech/rss>

NOVELTY (N) claims 1, 12, 24, 29-34

Claims 1, 12, 24 and 29-34: These claims lack novelty in comparison to document D1, which discloses all the features of the claims. In particular, the cited software is a "stand-alone application" and detects wait events "independently of the other programs being run by the computer and [does not require] any modification of the other programs," as claimed – this is stated succinctly on page 7, lines 1-3, and is described in detail on pages 19-24. Figure 4 also clearly shows that the hyperstitial application operates independently of the web browser by trapping browser events.

Similar comments apply in relation to D8 against independent claims 1 and 12, at least.

INVENTIVE STEP (IS) claims 1-34

Claims 1, 12, 24 and 29-34: As above.

Claims 2-7, 13-17 and 21-27: The additional features added by these dependent claims are not seen to confer inventive step to the claimed invention in light of D1. They relate to user preferences, the manner of presentation of the data display, and other details of implementation, are considered to be commonplace or otherwise straightforward.

Claims 8-11, 18-20 and 28: These claims do not involve an inventive step in light of D1, when combined with either D11 or D12, each of which describes a syndication standard. (It is obvious to make these combinations of documents, since RSS is currently the de facto mechanism for distributing data updates of the sort described in D1.)

and the like on a computer monitor at intervals when the computer is otherwise processing, that overcomes at least some of the abovementioned problems or at least to provide the public with a useful choice. It is a further non-limiting object of the invention to provide a computer program for generating and displaying information on a computer monitor at intervals when
5 the computer is otherwise processing, that overcomes at least some of the abovementioned problems or at least to provide the public with a useful choice.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

10 According to a non-limiting aspect of the invention there is provided a method of and a computer program for loading preselected information data for display on a computer monitor by running by running a stand alone computer application program independently of other programs on a computer, the application program being configured to detect the occurrence of a wait event caused by at least one other program being run on the computer, the wait event
15 resulting in a user having to wait for the computer to complete processing tasks commanded from one or more other programs being run on the computer, the process comprising:

- 20 a.) detecting a wait event occurring in other programs being run on the computer by sensing a wait condition and loading a preselected information datafile, the detection of the wait event occurring independently of the other programs being run by the computer and not requiring any modification of the other programs;
- b.) displaying information from the selected information datafile on the computer monitor during the occurrence of the wait event; and
- 25 c.) suspending display of information when the wait event has ended.

Preferably the computer program further includes the preliminary step i. of selecting user preferences, including any one or more of the following preferences, being the type of information for display as a window; the duration of the window of information for display; the number of windows; the size of the window; the contrast background of the window; the
30 transparency level of the background of the window; and the colour of the window.

Desirably in step c. the program is suspended, and further comprising step d. of resuming display of the information datafile when a further wait event is detected.

Claims:

1. A method of loading preselected information data for display on a computer monitor by running a stand alone computer application program independently of other programs on a computer, the application program being configured to detect the occurrence of a wait event caused by at least one other program being run on the computer, the wait event resulting in a user having to wait for the computer to complete processing tasks commanded from one or more other programs being run on the computer, the method comprising:
 - A. detecting a wait event occurring in other programs being run on the computer by sensing a wait condition and loading a preselected information datafile, the detection of the wait event occurring independently of the other programs being run by the computer and not requiring any modification of the other programs;
 - B. displaying information from the selected information datafile on the computer monitor during the occurrence of the wait event; and
 - C. suspending display of information when the wait event has ended.
2. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the selection of any one or more of the following user preferences comprising: the type of information for display as a window and prioritising the display of different types of information; the duration or frequency of display of information; the number of said windows; the position and size of the windows; the contrast background of the windows; the transparency level of the background of the windows; and the colour of the windows.
3. A method according to claim 1 further comprising the selection of a corner anchor point that determines the position of the window for display on the desktop of the computer monitor screen, the selection of a position on the monitor results in the corner of the window closest to the position selected becoming the corner anchor point from which windows appear in a cluster.
4. A method according to claim 1 further comprising step D. of resuming display of the information datafile when a further wait event is detected.

5. A method according to claim 4 further comprising step E. of loading a second or subsequent information datafile for display after the first information datafile has been displayed or when the user chooses to load the second or the subsequent information datafile.
- 5 6. A method according to claim 2 further comprising a means for adjusting the display time in accordance with a user's reading speed and the length or amount of information to be displayed.
- 10 7. A method according to claim 1 comprising a means for selecting an information datafile for use as a teaching tool, the teaching tool means allowing a user to select preferences such as the subject matter; a set of questions and degree of difficulty with the subject matter; and the sequence of display of each said question and associated answer.
- 15 8. A method according to claim 1 comprising a means for obtaining information data in a form capable of being displayed on a monitor from a really simply syndication (RSS) feed obtained from a computer host server via a communications network and caching the information or data on a computer hard drive for presentation in a display window at a subsequent wait event.
- 20 9. A method according to claim 8 wherein the time interval between receipt of updated information from a RSS feed is automatically adjusted based on recent changes to content in the information being received by the RSS feed.
- 25 10. A method according to claim 8 wherein in step B. queries for details of updated information relating to the RSS feeds are regularly sent to internet based computer web servers, and such queries are monitored and the query rate is adjusted based on the threshold of intrusion on the network bandwidth applying to the computer.
- 30 11. A method according to claim 8 further comprises a means to search for information on particular goods and/or services specified by a user through the RSS feeds, and the search means being adapted to communicate with an internet based search engine.

12. A computer program for loading preselected information data for display on a computer monitor by running a stand alone computer application program independently of other programs on a computer, the application program being
5 configured to detect the occurrence of a wait event caused by at least one other program being run on the computer; the wait event resulting in a user having to wait for the computer to complete processing tasks commanded from one or more other programs being run on the computer, the process comprising:
- 10 a. detecting a wait event occurring in other programs being run on the computer by sensing a wait condition and loading a preselected information datafile, the detection of the wait event occurring independently of the other programs being run by the computer and not requiring any modification of the other programs;
- 15 b. displaying information from the selected information datafile on the computer monitor during the occurrence of the wait event; and
- c. suspending display of information when the wait event has ended.
13. A computer program according to claim 12 further comprising the preliminary step i.
20 of allowing a user to select preferences from any one or more of the following user preferences comprising the type of information for display as a window; the duration of the window of information for display; the number of windows; the size of the window; the contrast background of the window; the transparency level of the background of the window; and the colour of the window.
- 25 14. A computer program according to claim 12 further comprising step d. of resuming display of the information datafile when a subsequent wait event is detected by way recommencing at the point where it was suspended at the end of the wait event, and continuing with step b. until step c. reoccurs.
- 30 15. A computer program according to claim 14 further including step e. of loading a second or subsequent information datafile for display after the first information

datafile has been displayed or when the user chooses to end the first information datafile and load the second or subsequent information datafile.

16. A computer program according to claim 13 wherein the preliminary step i. includes
5 preselecting any one or more information datafiles from a library of datafiles, the datafiles comprising information and/or text and/or graphics and/or audio material in a format suitable for display on a computer monitor.
17. A computer program according to claim 12 wherein in step b. the time period for
10 display of information in a window before the next frame is shown is automatically adjusted given a user's reading speed and the amount of information being presented during a wait event.
18. A computer program according to claim 12 wherein the information provided for
15 display in step b. is obtained from a RSS feed and cached on a computer hard drive for presentation in a display window at a subsequent wait event, and wherein the time interval between receipt of updated information from a RSS feed by a computer is automatically adjusted based on recent changes to content in the information being received by the RSS feed.
- 20
19. A computer program according to claim 12 wherein in step b. queries for details of
updated information relating to the RSS feeds are regularly sent to internet based
computer web servers, and such queries are monitored and the queries rate is adjusted
25 based on the threshold of intrusion on the network bandwidth applying to the computer.
20. A computer program according to claim 12 further comprising a means to search for
information on particular goods and/or services specified by a user through the RSS
feeds, and wherein the search means is adapted to communicate with an internet based
30 search engine.
21. A computer program according to claim 13 wherein in step i. a user can select an
origin point for anchoring a corner of the display window, the origin point of the

display window being the corner of the display window that is nearest to a corner of the desktop of the computer monitor.

- 5 22. A computer program according to claim 12 wherein in step b. the information datafile includes information prepared as a sequence of questions and associated answers on a particular subject, and wherein a set of questions and answers on a subject form an information datafile.
- 10 23. A computer program according to claim 13 wherein the number of questions and/or the degree of difficulty of the questions and/or the sequence of display of each said question and associated answer from each said information datafile is selectable by a user.
- 15 24. A computer program according to claim 12 wherein each selected information datafile is displayed sequentially or randomly.
- 20 25. A computer program according to claim 12 wherein the window display is adapted as a personal notepad on a computer monitor to allow a user to upload data or information onto the personal notepad to generate a personal note, and the personal note is stored for later display at a predetermined future date and time as a reminder, or displayed during a wait event.
- 25 26. A computer program according to claim 25 wherein each said personal note generated is assigned a file category, and each said personal note and each said file category is retrievable and updateable.
- 30 27. A computer program according to claim 25 wherein each said file category is assigned a different colour to distinguish one category of said personal note from another category.
28. A computer program according to claim 12 wherein in step i. the program is adapted to allow a user to encrypt and lock access to selected information datafiles and RSS feeds only to authorised users of such information datafiles.

29. A method according to claim 1 wherein the preselected information data is obtained and stored ready for display when required, and wherein a user manually runs the program to display the preselected information at any desirable time.
- 5
30. A method according to claim 1 wherein the stand alone computer application program is not embedded in the other programs for which wait events are being detected.
31. A method according to claim 1 wherein in step A, the wait condition is detected by
10 sensing any one or more of the following activities, the activities being a trigger sent from another program to the operating system of the computer or a change in a cursor status or by a change in the activity state of an application-specific icon.
32. A method according to claim 1 wherein in step A, the wait condition is detected by
15 sensing any one or more of at least two activities.
33. A method according to claim 1 wherein in step A, the wait condition is detected by sensing any one or more of three activities.
- 20 34. A computer program according to claim 12 wherein the stand alone computer application program is not embedded in the other programs for which wait events are being detected.

ABSTRACT

This invention relates to a computer program for displaying information in the form of a
5 display window during a downtime when a computer user is waiting for a computer to
complete processing tasks, and referred to herein as a wait event, the program including the
steps of detecting a wait event and activating an information datafile or information or
activating the program manually by the user; displaying information on a computer monitor in
the form of data and/or graphics and/or video and/or audio material; and suspending the
10 program when the wait event has ended or when suspended manually by the user, such
suspension resulting in the disappearance of the display window.

1/2

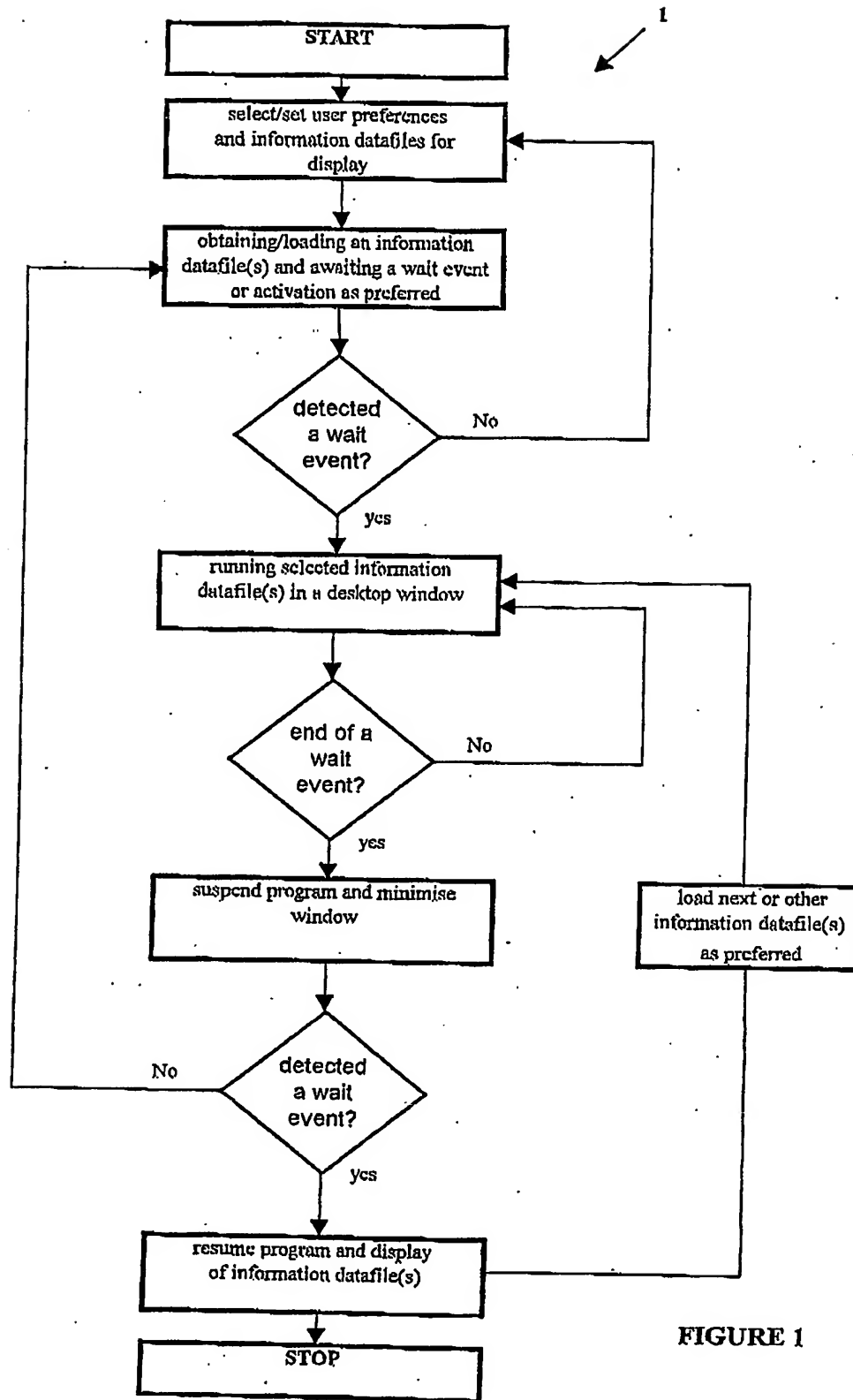


FIGURE 1